

ENDEAVOR PLEDGE WIDELY DISCUSSED

President Hall's Condemnation Excites All Denominations.

MR. BRADLEY'S BELIEF. He Says Profanity Is About as Prevalent Now as a Generation Ago.

BRUSH COMMENTS OATH.

The Doctor Declares That It Is the Foundation of the Society's Success.

A FINE DISTINCTION MADE.

Defenders of the Pledge Say That It Involves a Promise to Endeavor, and Not an Oath, to Perform.

PLEDGE OF THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.

Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would like to have me do.

That I will make it the rule of my life to pray and to read the Bible every day.

To support my own church in every way, especially by attending all her regular mid-week services, unless prevented by some reason which I can conscientiously give to my Saviour.

That just so far as I know how throughout my whole life I will endeavor to lead a Christian life.

As an active member I promise to be true to all my duties, to be present at and take some part, aside from singing, in every Christian Endeavor prayer meeting, unless hindered by some reason which I can conscientiously give to my Lord and Master.

If obliged to be absent from the monthly consecration meeting of the Society I will, if possible, send a verse of Scripture to be read at the mention of my name at the roll call.

An Associate Member's Pledge. As an associate member I promise to attend the prayer meetings of the Society habitually and declare my willingness to do what I may be called upon to do as an associate member to advance the interests of the Society.

It is this pledge, taken by all members of the Christian Endeavor Society, which has met the unqualified disapproval of President G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University, Worcester, Mass., President Clarke was very outspoken in his utterances on the subject when he addressed the Summer School at Worcester last Friday, and his remarks have occasioned much criticism.

"We find elaborate vows in the Christian Endeavor pledges," he said. "How much shall we rely on them? That is a grave question. The oath should not be taken lightly, nor too early, and certainly no oath should be taken that cannot be kept. For a young person to take an oath which is not to be kept is to give the name of God to a purpose which is almost sure to be broken, is a very serious thing."

Dr. Hall Goes Further.

These utterances were frank enough, but Dr. Hall went further. "There are realms of certainty where some people think proofs are not admissible or are only secondary. Children begin with unlimited credulity. They like to affirm things which are not true. Many of them I am sure, take the Endeavor pledge without understanding all that is required of them. They take a vow which I fear a very great number of them are utterly unable to keep. Even more numerous persons are simply unable to keep such a vow. Is this right?"

Then Dr. Hall discussed the habit of taking oaths which is prevalent among young people. He said that the expression "I hope to die, cross my heart, honest I am, I am not telling the truth," "By Godfrey," "By the great horned owl," "By Jove," and similar expressions which, he claims, are almost universally used by young persons who have taken the oath of the Christian Endeavor Society, are all wrong. He said that the expression "I hope to die" is a direct violation of the oath, because it is a form of swearing, and that the expression "cross my heart" is a violation of the oath, because it is a form of swearing, and that the expression "honest I am" is a violation of the oath, because it is a form of swearing.

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Opposition Oath.

"Most of the prominent members of the union are still absent from its city," she said last night. "I wish President Adams were here to reply to Dr. Hall. I am sure he would put matters in a very different light. He will reach here Tuesday, and I think it likely that he will have some comment to make. I for my part, am very much surprised at what Dr. Hall has said. No one takes the Christian Endeavor pledge, or can take it, until he or she is a member of a church. I am sure that the churches expect quite as much consecration as the society does, and the vows are every bit as strong and binding. No one is perfect, and probably, as human weakness is, the society is not kept in line. That is not expected. But it is expected that an earnest endeavor will be made to keep them."

"There is to be a big rally of the society at Faith Presbyterian Church next Thursday night," she continued, "which will be in the nature of an echo of the San Francisco Convention, and then I hope the criticisms of Dr. Hall will be commented upon and the entire matter well ventilated. Certainly we must all admit that the opinion of such a man as Dr. Hall is entitled to respect."

Any Christian Can Make It.

John M. Kyle, president of the Second District Christian Endeavor Society, Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would like to have me do.

Rev. Edward Judson, Judson Memorial Church—Dr. Hall's criticisms of the Christian Endeavor pledge are not entirely new. For that matter, I understand there has been considerable discussion at times within the society itself of the pledge. There is much to be said in support of Dr. Hall's views. It is deplorable that so many of the young people do not live up to the pledge, but still, is that the fault of the pledge? A man takes a pledge that he will not drink and breaks it. Is that the fault of the pledge, and should his failure deter others from taking the temperance pledge? Supposing Dr. Hall's objections were well taken, what is to be done? All societies are founded on a pledge of some sort. There must be

some principle back of a movement. A man cannot even get married without taking a pledge. I do not belong to the Christian Endeavor Society myself, but I think it has done a great deal of good.

Criticism Uncalled For.

G. A. Haskett, President Fourth Avenue Christian Endeavor Society—I think Dr. Hall's strictures on the Christian Endeavor oath entirely uncalled for. The Apostle Paul asked, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" And the answer was, "Go and preach the Gospel." The Christian Endeavor Society is founded on the life of St. Paul. It is an endeavor society in the strict meaning of the word. We do not take oaths that we will do so and so, but that we will strive to do so and so. Supposing a man signs a note, pledges himself to pay an indebtedness, and fails to meet his obligation after an honest effort—would you say he should be blamed for making that pledge? Still, that is what Dr. Hall criticizes us for. Our pledge is not more binding than the obligation a man takes upon himself when he signs any note or check. None of its requirements are unreasonable. I ask nothing that cannot be performed. While I pledge myself to be present and take part in every meeting, there is a provision that allows me to attend to other duties that may happen to be more pressing. I should consider it was free to attend a primary election, for instance, if it was important.

Senator James A. Bradley—"I am not posted on just what President Hall said regarding the oaths sworn to by the Christian Endevorers, but assume that Mr. Hall's opposition to the binding pledges is taken on the ground that they were often made under the pressure of great religious excitement, when the heart and not the mind was throbbing under the temporary influence of some magnetic enthusiasm, and the subject easily swayed. I am not familiar with the oaths required of Christian Endevorers, but if they are like any of the old-fashioned temperance pledges, then I say the minister, or other persons who opposes these pledges is either very much short-sighted or a crank. I have known so many of the young to have been saved by early pledges.

Doesn't Hear Swear Words.

"My environments are such that I have no ready means of knowing exactly whether profanity is on the increase or not. I know that my men and boys are not swearing, and I know that, and, of course, this is so because of the consequence to them, should I detect any in the practice, but go among back-wood boys now I have heard their hardened men blaspheme. I suppose there is just about the same amount of profanity requirements come within the scope of human effort.

Rev. Wilbur F. Brush, Forty-fourth Street M. E. Church—Yes, the Christian Endeavor pledge is an iron-clad pledge, but I believe this very pledge has made the society so wonderfully successful. In fact, the society rests upon this pledge. It has given them a high ideal to live up to and this has inspired them with enthusiasm. I think that the Christian Endeavor Society, although it is not within the Methodist Church, the pledge does not stipulate impossibilities, and all its requirements come within the scope of human effort.

Though sleeping cars and day coaches, New York to Chicago, via B. & O. and Nickel Plate roads. Lowest rates.—Advt.

PARSON CHOKED BY MOSQUITOES.

Buzzing Flock Filled His Mouth and Cut Off His Breath.

DELAWARE'S FLY PLAGUE.

Negroes Call the Land Devil-Ridden, and Say It Means a Mundane Scorch-Up.

Georgetown, Del., August 1.—People of lower Sussex County are passing through a plague of mosquitoes, the like of which, it is believed here, even New Jersey folk have never experienced. The pestiferous insects commenced to swarm into the county last Monday night, since which time

they have hovered about in clouds day and night. They have docked in such numbers as to compel a practical suspension of the camp meetings, which began in this section last week.

To-day the camp meeting grounds between this town and Milton were deserted. Residents of Georgetown and Milton decided that it would be more advisable for them to postpone their religious activities until to go to the camp grounds and be devoured by mosquitoes.

Nearly Choked the Parson.

The mosquitoes that are holding a blood-letting carnival of a decidedly pungent variety, and insist not only upon using their long lances with terrible effect, but crawl into the eyes, ears and mouths of persons. At a colored camp meeting near Gravelly Hill on Friday night a good sized flock of the insects attacked the Rev. Joshua Abbott while he was offering prayer, and, flying into his mouth, almost choked him to death and put a stop to the services.

The plague has assumed such proportions that the negroes are becoming wild with superstition. Many of them believe the plague is the forerunner of a big drought, during which the earth will be burned up by the sun. The oldest and most superstitious of them pray all day for a cessation of the plague. At the negro camp meeting ground the few who ventured there to-day held special services, in which devout prayers were offered up for the deliverance of the country from the hands of the devil, who, the negroes say, is responsible for the visit of the great army of insects.

Three Towns in Darkness.

As a result of the presence of the mosquitoes, this town and Lewes and Milton are in darkness to-night, the residents of all the places having agreed last night not to burn or permit to be burned any lamp or gas jet. In Milton one family bought up all the mosquito netting a local firm had in stock, and in this town two families enjoy the monopoly of mosquito netting.

The impression prevails here that the mosquitoes now pestering people are the famous Jersey mosquitoes, and that they were blown across the bay by the recent northeast storm. A local authority says that the mosquitoes are of a migratory species, and that they will travel northward and get back to Jersey by way of Wilmington and Philadelphia.

New Puddling Scale Fixed.

After an All-Night Conference the Rate Is Reduced to \$4.

Youngstown, Ohio, Aug. 1.—It was daylight this morning before the iron manufacturers and the millers of the Annular Association conference committee agreed on a scale for puddling. The puddlers made several attempts to effect a compromise and obtain \$4.25 a ton for puddling, but the manufacturers positively refused to recede from their demand for a reduction from \$4.50 to \$4. The new scale adopted is as follows:

Four dollars a ton on a one-cent card rate; \$4.25 on a one and one-fourth cent rate; \$4.00 on a one and one-eighth cent rate; \$3.75 on a one and one-sixteenth cent rate; \$3.50 on a one and one-thirty-second cent rate; \$3.25 on a one and one-sixty-fourth cent rate; \$3.00 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$2.75 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$2.50 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$2.25 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$2.00 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$1.75 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$1.50 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$1.25 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$1.00 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$0.75 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$0.50 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$0.25 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate; \$0.00 on a one and one-hundredth cent rate.

An adjournment was taken at 7 o'clock this morning until 9 o'clock Monday morning, when it is expected the puddling scale will be adjusted.

INSANE LAWYER IN A MURDER TRIAL.

J. L. Moyse, of New York. Deceived the Attorneys in Georgia.

PROVED HIS EXPERTNESS.

His Suggestions Found to Be of Great Service in the Defence of Flanagan.

Atlanta, Aug. 1.—In the company of an attendant, J. L. Moyse this afternoon left for New York. He appeared here last Monday, representing himself to be of the firm of Lloyd, Moyse & West, attorneys, of New York, and spent the morning as a spectator of the famous Flanagan murder

trial.

If it cost that well-defended monopoly \$100,000 to quash the indictment, which stood against it in the Spring it will take thirty days to get even. If it cost \$50,000, which is closer to the mark, it will take a

few days to get even.

The American cigarette smoker uses the domestic brands, as compared with the foreign brands and mixtures, in the ratio of ten to one. Hereafter, when the trade is adjusted to the new wholesale price, he will pay 6 cents instead of 5 for packages of ten and 12 cents for packages of twenty. The dealer has heretofore had a margin of \$1.20 profit on a thousand of the common brand cigarettes. If he continues to sell at the same price his profit will divide to 90 cents. That's not a living profit, they declare, and they must increase their prices to the consumer. About 4,145,325,570 cigarettes were made in the United States in the year ending June 30, 1897, according to the estimate of the trade journal, Tobacco. They cost the consumer \$20,720,025. If the consumption of cigarettes is as large as the coming year, under the new price smokers will pay \$24,871,350 for their cigarettes, an increase of \$4,151,325. Of this amount the Trust will reap \$1,200,000 profit.

The Trust ascribes the advance to the increase in the internal revenue tax. It does not claim that trade conditions have anything to do with it. There is no shortage in the cigarette output.

Dealers are chafing over the advance. They see no alternative but to submit to it. The Trust is in absolute control of the trade. They say that the new price list is designed to force 30 per cent of the new internal revenue tax out of them instead of out of the consumers.

At the cigar house of A. Schulte & Co., on Park row, it was said yesterday: "The advance is in about the same proportion all through the list of cigarettes. We do not believe here that the large city retailers will find the margin of profit too small at the old prices. The only practical advance that retailers can make on the commonly sold brands, will be from 5 to 6 cents on packages of ten, and from 10 to 12 cents on packages of twenty."

The Trust is going to get back the price of its late trial.

Expenses of Its Trial, and a Big Sum Besides, to Be Extorted from Smokers.

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